PTO/SB/30 (09-04)

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|--|---|--|--|--|
| Request for  | Application Number                        | 10/634,253   |  |  |
| for Continued Examination (RCE)                                | Filing Date                               | August 5, 2003                                       |  |  |
| Transmittal  | First Named Inventor                      | Howard Wayne Hall                                    |  |  |
| Address to: Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents             | Art Unit                                  | 3679   |  |  |
|  | Examiner Name                             | David Bochna   |  |  |
| P.O. Box 1450<br>Alexandria, VA 22313-1450                     | Attorney Docket Number                    | 05690-00620  |  |  |

This is a Request for Continued Examination (RCE) under 37 CFR 1.114 of the above-identified application. Request for Continued Examination (RCE) practice under 37 CFR 1.114 does not apply to any utility or plant application filed prior to June 8, 1995, or to any design application. See Instruction Sheet for RCEs (not to be submitted to the USPTO) on page 2.

| Submission required under 37 CFR 1.114 Note: If the RCE is proper, any previously filed unentered amendments and amendments enclosed with the RCE will be entered in the order in which they were filed unless applicant instructs otherwise. If applicant does not wish to have any previously filed unentered amendment(s) entered, applicant must request non-entry of such amendment(s). |   |  |  |  |  |
|--|---|--|--|--|--|
| a. Previously submitted. If a final Office action is outstanding, any amendments filed after the final Office action may be considered as a submission even if this box is not checked.  |   |  |  |  |  |
| i. Consider the arguments in the Appeal Brief or Reply Brief previously filed on  Other  |   |  |  |  |  |
| b. X Enclosed  |   |  |  |  |  |
| I. X Amendment/Reply   | iii. X Information Disclosure Statement (IDS) |  |  |  |  |
| ii. Affidavit(s)/ Declaration(s)   | iv. x Other PTO Form SB/08a; references       |  |  |  |  |
| 2. Miscellaneous   |   |  |  |  |  |
| Suspension of action on the above-identified application  a. period of months. (Period of suspension shall no  | , , ,   |  |  |  |  |
| b. Other   |   |  |  |  |  |
| 3. Fees The RCE fee under 37 CFR 1.17(e) is required by 37 CFR 1.114 when the RCE is filed. The Director is hereby authorized to charge the following fees, or credit any overpayments, to Deposit Account No. 50-0449  I have enclosed a duplicate copy of this sheet.  |   |  |  |  |  |
| i. RCE fee required under 37 CFR 1.17(e)   |   |  |  |  |  |
| ii. Extension of time fee (37 CFR 1.136 and 1.17)  |   |  |  |  |  |
| iii. X Other Any fee deficiencies  |   |  |  |  |  |
| b. X Check in the amount of \$ 395.00  | enclosed                                      |  |  |  |  |
| c. Payment by credit card (Form PTO-2038 enclosed)   |   |  |  |  |  |
| WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038.   |   |  |  |  |  |
| ŞIGNATURE OF APPLICANT, ATTO   |   |  |  |  |  |
| Signature Clark Dougherty  | Date November 30, 2004                        |  |  |  |  |
| Name (Print/Type) C. Clark Dougherty, Jr.  | Registration No.   24,208                     |  |  |  |  |
| CERTIFICATE OF MAILING OR TRANSMISSION   |   |  |  |  |  |
| I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States P addressed to: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P. O. Box 1450, Alexandri Office on the date shown below.   |   |  |  |  |  |
| Signature Schamb Kaylus  |   |  |  |  |  |
| Name (Print/Type)   Stephanie A. Bayliss ()  | Date November 30, 2004                        |  |  |  |  |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.114. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.11 and 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 12 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Mail Stop RCE, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

12/03/2004 MMEKONEN 00000095 10634253 In accompleting the form, call 1-800-PTO-9199 and select option 2.

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| Effective on 10/01/200 | 04. Patent fees are subject to annual i | revision. |
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|                        | or EV 2005                              |           |

X Applicant claims small entity status. See 37 CFR 1.27

TOTAL AMOUNT OF PAYMENT

SUBMITTED BY

Name (Print/Type) C. Clark Dougherty, **0**r.

Signature

| Complete if Known    |                   |  |  |  |
|----------------------|-------------------|--|--|--|
| Application Number   | 10/634,253        |  |  |  |
| Filing Date          | August 5, 2003    |  |  |  |
| First Named Inventor | Howard Wayne Hall |  |  |  |
| Examiner Name        | David Bochna      |  |  |  |
| Art Unit             | 3679              |  |  |  |
| Attorney Docket No.  | 05690-00602       |  |  |  |

| METHOD OF PAYMENT (check all that apply)  |             | FEE CALCULATION (continued)    |                   |   |               |                 |                 |
|---|-------------|--------------------------------|-------------------|---|---------------|-----------------|-----------------|
| X Check Credit Card Money Order   |             | 2. EXTRA CLAIM FEES            |                   |   | Small Entity  |                 |                 |
|   | cuit Cara   | ·                              | oney order        | Fee Description   |               | <u>Fee (\$</u>  | Fee (\$)        |
| X Deposit Account   |             | No                             | ne                | Each claim over 20                                      | - 2           | 18              | 9               |
|   |             |                                |                   | Each independent claim over                             | 13            | 88              | 44              |
| Deposit<br>Account 50-  | 0449        |                                |                   | Multiple dependent claims For Reissues, each claim over | r 20 an       | 300             | 150             |
| Number  |             | <u> </u>                       |                   | more than in the original pa                            |               | u<br>18         | 9               |
| Deposit<br>Account McAfee & Taft  |             | For Reissues, each independent |                   |   | 9             |                 |                 |
| Name  |             |                                |                   | more than in the original pa                            |               | 88              | 44              |
| The Director is hereby authorized to: (check all that apply)  |             | Total Claims Extra C           |                   | • -   | Fee Paid (\$) |                 |                 |
| Charge fee(s) indicated below   |             | 20 or HP = x =                 |                   |   |               |                 |                 |
|   |             |                                |                   | HP = highest number of total claims                     | s paid for,   | if greater than | 20              |
| Charge fee(s) i   | ndicated b  | elow, except f                 | or the filing fee | Indep. Claims Extra C                                   | laims         | Fee (\$)        | Fee Paid (\$)   |
|   |             |                                | yments of fee(s)  | - 3 or HP =<br>HP = highest number of independe         |               | x=              |                 |
| under 37 CFR  |             | .17                            |                   | · ·   | ni ciaims     |                 |                 |
| X Credit any over   | ipayments   |                                |                   | Multiple Dependent Claims                               |               | Fee (\$)        | Fee Paid (\$)   |
| to the above–identifie  | d deposit a | account.                       |                   |   |               |                 | -               |
| _   |             |                                |                   | Sub   | total (       | (2) \$          |                 |
| Other (please identif   | y):         |                                |                   | 3. OTHER FEES   |               | Small Entit     | tv              |
| WARNING: Information on this form may become public. Credit card  |             | Fee Description                | Fee (\$)          |   | Fee Paid(\$)  |                 |                 |
| information should not be included on this form. Provide credit card information and authorization on PTO-2038. |             | 1-month extension of time      | 110               | 55  |               |                 |                 |
| FEE CALCULATION   |             | 2-month extension of time      | 430               | 215   |               |                 |                 |
| FLE CA  | ALCOLAT     | ION                            |                   | 3-month extension of time                               | 980           | 490             |                 |
| 1. BASIC FILING FEE   |             |                                |                   | 4-month extension of time                               | 1,530         | 765             |                 |
| Fee Description   | Fee (\$)    | Small Entity<br>Fee (\$)       | Fee Paid(\$)      |   | ,             |                 |                 |
|   |             | <u>. 00 (4)</u>                |                   | 5-month extension of time                               | 2,080         | 1,040           | -               |
| Utility Filing Fee  | 790         | 395                            |                   | Information disclosure stmt. fee                        | 180           | 180             |                 |
|   |             |                                |                   | 37 CFR 1.17(q) processing fee                           | 50            | 50              |                 |
| Design Filing Fee   | 350         | 175                            |                   | Non-English specification                               | 130           | 130             |                 |
| Plant Filing Fee  | 550         | 275                            |                   | Notice of Appeal  | 340           | 170             |                 |
| 1 fant 1 finig 1 &  | 330         | 213                            |                   | ••  |               |                 |                 |
| Reissue Filing Fee  | 790         | 395                            |                   | Filing a brief in support of appear                     | al 340        | 170             |                 |
| -   |             |                                |                   | Request for oral hearing                                | 300           | 150             |                 |
| Provisional Filing Fee  | 160         | 80_                            |                   | Other: Request for Continued Examination                | n (RCE)       |                 | <u>\$395.00</u> |
|   | Subto       | tal (1) \$                     |                   | Su  | btotal        | (3) \$ 3        | 95.00           |

This collection of information is required by 37 CFR 1.136. The information is required to obtain or retain a benefit by the public which is to file (and by the USPTO to process) an application. Confidentiality is governed by 35 U.S.C. 122 and 37 CFR 1.14. This collection is estimated to take 30 minutes to complete, including gathering, preparing, and submitting the completed application form to the USPTO. Time will vary depending upon the individual case. Any comments on the amount of time you require to complete this form and/or suggestions for reducing this burden, should be sent to the Chief Information Officer, U.S. Patent and Trademark Office, U.S. Department of Commerce, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450. DO NOT SEND FEES OR COMPLETED FORMS TO THIS ADDRESS. SEND TO: Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450.

Registration No.

(Attorney/Agent)

24,208

Telephone

405-235-9621

Date November 30, 2004



## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

| Applicant:   | Howard Wayne Hall   | ) |                        |
|--------------|---|---|------------------------|
| Serial No.:  | 10/634,253  | ) | Art Unit: 3679         |
| Filing Date: | August 5, 2003  | ) | Examiner: David Bochna |
| For:         | GAS SERVICE RISER ASSEMBLY<br>AND DUCTILE PIPE TO PLASTIC<br>PIPE TRANSITION CONNECTION | ) |                        |

Mail Stop RCE Commissioner for Patents Post Office Box 1450 Alexandria, Virginia 22313-1450

## **REQUEST FOR CONTINUED EXAMINATION**

This is a request for a continued examination (RCE) under 37 CFR § 1.114 including the required fee under 37 § CFR 1.17(e). The enclosed submission includes an information disclosure statement, a specification amendment, claim amendments, and arguments in response to the Final Office Action mailed on October 21, 2004. The Applicant respectfully requests that the Examiner consider the amendments and arguments.